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JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

March 13, 2019

[VIA EMAIL and U.S. MAIL]

Tomas Torres, Director
Water Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
Mail Code: WTR-1
San Francisco, CA 94105
Torres.Tomas@epa.gov

Dear Director Torres:

AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN RIVER DELTA ESTUARY

Pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251, et seq.), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is submitting to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). In accordance with the State's water quality control law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act ([Cal.] Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.), the amended Bay-Delta Plan establishes beneficial uses, water quality objectives for the protection of beneficial uses and a program of implementation to achieve the objectives in the Bay-Delta estuary and tributary watersheds. On December 12, 2018, the State Water Board adopted the amended Bay-Delta Plan by Resolution No. 2018-0059. On February 25, 2019, the Office of Administrative Law approved the regulatory action, and on February 26, 2019, the State Water Board filed a Notice of Decision in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ([Cal.] Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.).

Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act requires a state to submit water quality standards, as defined in the Act, to U.S. EPA for review and approval. (33 U.S.C. § 1313(c).) In accordance with section 303(c), the State Water Board requests review and approval of the revised southern Delta salinity objective (which is a standard within the meaning of the Clean Water Act) set forth in Table 2, *Water Quality Objectives for Agricultural Beneficial Uses* (enclosed).

For information regarding the record supporting the revised southern Delta salinity objective, please see the State Water Board's program webpage at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/bay_delta_plan/water_quality_control_planning/.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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If you have any questions, please contact Erin Mahaney, Staff Counsel IV, at 916-341-5187 or Erin.Mahaney@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Eileen Sobeck
Executive Director

Enclosure: 2018 Bay-Delta Plan, Table 2, *Water Quality Objectives for Agricultural Beneficial Uses*

cc: **[All Via Email Only]**

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